

The Wesley Connexion

September 2019

Creating Christian Community for CMU Students

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Wesley Staff 2019

This year's staff includes returning and new students, upper and underclassmen. Elizabeth Clark maintains office duties and is also this year's Music Director (see page three for more about Elizabeth). Madi Pelak (senior) will continue with some custodial tasks as well as office financial work. Josh Jagers (senior) is our Peer Minister; his primary responsibility is community care. Lauren Canary (sophomore) will be Event Coordinator, working on special programs. Hannah Burgess (sophomore) will begin with a light schedule (during the marching band season) as our movie guru and do custodial work as time allows.

The staff assembled before the semester for an overnight retreat, with time spent on both "big picture" ideas and practical details. All student staff participate in leadership development with Director Charlie Farnum through one-on-ones, as well as weekly staff meetings. We invite your prayers for these student leaders as they juggle busy schedules!



Pictured are the 2019 Wesley student staff. From left to right: Hannah Burgess, Lauren Canary, Madi Pelak, Elizabeth Clark, and Josh Jagers.

Some Alumni Tidbits

Angela Lasecki is in her third year of the Wayne State Doctor of Audiology program. She is serving as Student Academy of Audiology Ambassador for the state of Michigan, and president of the Student Academy of Audiology for Wayne State University. *Blair Tiseo* is also at Wayne State, in the Physician Assistant program; she will graduate in May. Blair was married in June to Dr. Louis Saravolatz.

Riley Anderson has arrived at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, England to begin work with Steven Mead on the euphonium.

Homecoming 2019!

The schedule is set for this year's festivities! Join the CMU fun on October 12. The parade begins at 11 a.m. from Lot 22, with a 3 p.m. kickoff for the football game against New Mexico State. Other activities include the Alumni Village, Cardboard Boat Race, and Tailgating. More information and a complete schedule are on the CMU website.

Wesley will be open with coffee and snacks in the morning, plus a great location for parade viewing. Please come by, see the new look, and say hello! There is easy parking here for the game if you're able to walk the mile to Kelly/Shorts stadium. We'd love to offer you a tour of the Leadership Residence as well.

Ways to strengthen campus ministry:

Pray for students, staff, and volunteers. Thank God for past, present, and future work and people.

Send information—about alumni doings and whereabouts, and about current and prospective college students.

Spread the word in your local church; let others know what's happening! Organize a visit and meet those on campus.

Donate at your local campus ministry. Your time, your service, and your gifts are valued. There is always work to be done!

We're looking for Board members with skill in specific areas, so if you know someone with experience in property management, human resources, or fund development, please let us know!

Building updates

Student staff spent some time over the summer improving the building aesthetic. Thanks to Madi Pelak and Elizabeth Clark for their leadership and hard work; they did the planning and the bulk of the work. Josh Jagers and Hannah Burgess got in on the action with some painting just before the semester began.

The room in the middle of the north hall has become the very comfortable "small lounge". It is ideal for relaxing, study, and small meetings.

The main room is now a cheerful shade of yellow, with adorable new window covers in place (necessary for movies!). The covers can also hang on the walls to let light in. Over the years (including one tile-painting party) part of the ceiling has been decorated and reflects the interests of various folks. The next big project is replacing the flooring on the main level; the tiles are original to the building and expensive to maintain. Elizabeth and Madi are leading the fundraising effort to update the floors.



To donate to the flooring project, send your gift to Wesley@CMU, 1400 S. Washington Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 or donate securely online at cmuwes.org/donate

Pictured:
Top, the small lounge
Above, the main room (with window covers)
Below, the ceiling in the rear of the main room



We invite you to support the work of Wesley. Among many other things, your financial donation helps maintain student staff, who are crucial to growth and recruitment. We want all students to know the love of God in their lives.

Keep Informed

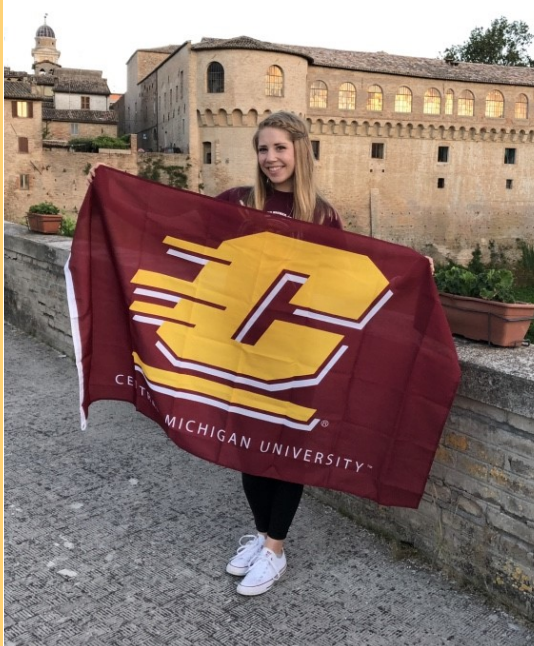
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THE SPOTLIGHT

Elizabeth Clark

My name is Elizabeth Clark, and I am a senior at CMU. In May, I will graduate with my Bachelor of Science in Music and Psychology. I plan to obtain my Master's in Higher Education Administration to work at a university. I have been involved in the Honors Program and several ensembles on campus. I enjoy traveling, having studied abroad in Italy and Denmark, and would love to continue exploring the world. Last year, I joined the Wesley staff as a Student Administrator, and this year, I am also serving as the Music Director.

I grew up attending First United Methodist Church in West Branch, Michigan. I was quite active in my church, regularly going to Sunday School, service, and youth group, as well as volunteering and working at children's programs as I got older. I knew that my faith was something I wanted to keep practicing and deepening when I came to CMU. When I first got involved at Wesley, I immediately felt accepted and appreciated the sense of community. Being a part of Wesley has given me a great opportunity to develop as a Christian, and also as a leader. I have formed some incredible friendships, and have really grown through my involvement here. I am very thankful for the Wesley community and everyone who supports us!



Wesley.

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Happening this semester...

Continuing activities for this semester are Sunday worship, student dinner, and Swing Dancing. Movie nights are twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays).

We will share "A Time of Prayer" weekly on Wednesdays. We warmly invite persons of all faiths to come together in praying for our community and our world, as well as personal concerns.

Pizza Theology on Thursdays offers a chance to dig deeper into the topic of Sunday's sermon, with continued discussion where that leads. Short term classes will include "Freshmen 101: Thriving in Your First Semester", and "Making Sense of the Bible". Other classes and individual spiritual direction are available and scheduled to fit interest. Each Friday will feature a different fun event to build the community. On the schedule are Open Mic Nights (each fourth Friday), Jackbox games, bowling, and an impromptu production of "The Taming of the Shrew" with *Shakespeare in a Box*. Other anticipated activities are pumpkin carving, tile painting (more ceiling decorations!), board games, and cookie decorating/gingerbread houses.

Wesley alumni and community members are invited to join us for these activities; we value inter-generational connections and friendships. Please plan to visit whenever you're in Mt. Pleasant. We love to hear from our alumni and show you what God is doing here.

We are delighted to have two current students interested in the ministry; both were able to make connections at the Michigan Annual Conference and we are working to have them attend "Exploration". This is a United Methodist event held every other year; its purpose is to create sacred space where young adults can discern God's call on their lives.